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Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MZ UN SA RH WA
SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION

1. SUMMARY: SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR LAGOS ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE, MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER:
---ACCUSES WESTERN POWERS OF LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENCE FORMULAS THAT WILL INSURE MAINTENANCE OF WESTERN INTERESTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA;
---NOTES THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS A KEY FACTOR IN RESOLVING THE ZIMBABWEAN PROBLEM;
---CRITICIZES THE FRG AND FRANCE FOR NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA: AND
---ASSERTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL NOT CONCEDE TO SWAPO'S DEMANDS ON NAMIBIA.END SUMMARY.

2. IN AN INTERVIEW AUGUST 19 WITH LOCAL JOURNALISTS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE LAGOS ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE, MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER JOAQUIM CHISSANO COMMENTED ON THE ROLE OF WESTERN
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COUNTRIES AND SOUTH AFRICA IN SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA CAN MANUFACTURE A NUCLEAR BOMB AND SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION ON NAMIBIA. FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN POINTS:

3. ROLE OF WESTERN COUNTRIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: ASKED TO COMMENT ON

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A RECENT STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN SANTO DOMINGO THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD FIND IT INCREASINGLY MORE DIFFICULUT TO DEAL WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN PRETORIA, CHISSANO SAID THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE NEVER OF THEIR OWN VOLITION ALTERED THEIR POLICIES TOWARD ANY COLONIAL REGIME BUT HAVE ONLY ADJUSTED TO THE CONDITIONS CREATED BY THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. "IT IS THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE THAT OBLIGES THE WESTERN STATES TO TAKE POSITIONS MORE AND MORE FAVORABLE TO THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS." HOWEVER, IT IS APPARENT THAT THE WESTER POWERS ARE TRYING TO UNDER-MINE THE REAL LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE AND TO FIND INDEPENDENCE

FORMULAS THAT WILL "ABOVE ALL GUARANTEE THEIR INTERESTS."

4. SOUTH AFRICA'S ROLE IN THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE: CHISSANO SAID THAT "SOUTH AFRICA IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INTIATIVES" ON RHODESIA. RHODESIA IS ABLE TO CARRY ON ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE LIBERATION FORCES AND TO WITHSTAND THE EFFECTS OF UN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ONLY BECAUSE OF "THE SUPPORT IT RECEIVES DIRECTLY FROM SOUTH AFRICA." FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, RHODESIA CONTINUES TO RECEIVE PETROLEUM AND OTHER PRODUCTS DIRECTLY FROM THE REPUBLIC. THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIAN MAKES IT "DECISIV" THAT THE WESTERN COUNTRIES NEGOTIATE WITH THE PRETORIA GOVERNMENT TO SEEK A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM. HOWEVER, A SOLUTION IN ZIMBABWE, CHISSANO CONCLUDED, COULD ONLY BE FOUND AFTER THE WEST APPLIED PRESSURE TO SOUTH AFRICA. IT WAS HIS OPINION THE "WEST HAS STILL NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ECIDED TO ATTACK" SOUTH AFRICA DIRECTLY FOR ITS ECONOMIC AND MILITARY COLLABORATION WITH THE SMITH REGIME.

5. SOUTH AFRICAN PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A NUCLEAR BOMB. CHISSANO SAID THAT REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS TO CONSTRUCT A NUCLEAR DEVICE SHOULD BE VIEWED WITH CONCERN NOT ONLY BY THE STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA BUT BY ALL PEACEFUL STATES. SOUTH AFRICA'S POSSESSION OF A NUCLEAR BOMB IS A THREAT TO THE PEACE OF INDEPENDENT AFRICA STATES AND TO THOSE PEOPLE STILL LIVING UNDER COLONIALISM. CHISSANO THEN CITED THE COOPERATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND FRANCE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AS ONE OF THE PRINCIPLE REASONS WHY SOUTH AFRICA NOW HAS THE CAPABILITY TO MANUFACTURE A NUCLEAR BOMB.

6. SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION NAMIBIA: CHISSANO REMARKEDED THAT "SOUTH AFRICA WILL NOT GIVE IN TO SWAPO'S DEMANDS." SOUTH AFRICA WILL CONCEDE ONLY IN THE FACE OF THE ARMED STRUGGLE, ADDITIONAL PRESSURE FROM THE WEST, AND THE RECOGNITION THAT THE WEST WILL ABANDON SOUTH AFRICA UNLESS IT CHANGES ITS POLICIES.

7. COMMENT: CHISSANO'S REMARKS REFLECT HIS (AND THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT'S) DEEP AND LINGERING SUSPICIONS ABOUT THE SINCERITY

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OF WESTERN INITIATIVES ON ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA.
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